

9. (Amended) An absorbent article according to Claim 7 wherein said topsheet comprises a nonwoven materials having depositions of a low surface energy material that create a surface energy gradient between the depositions and the underlying polymeric structure of the nonwoven material.
10. (Amended) An absorbent article according to Claim 7 wherein said topsheet comprises a laminate of a nonwoven material and a formed apertured thermoplastic film, the nonwoven material having depositions of a low surface energy material on the surface thereof that is opposite to the surface joined to the thermoplastic film for forming the laminate, wherein the low surface energy material creates a surface energy gradient between the depositions and the underlying polymeric structure of the nonwoven material.
11. (Amended) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said absorbent core comprises a polymeric foam formed from a high internal phase emulsion.
12. (Amended) An absorbent article according to Claim 10 wherein said absorbent core comprises a blend of chemically stiffened, twisted, and curled bulking fibers, high surface area fibers, and thermoplastic binding fibers.
13. (Amended) An absorbent article according to Claim 10 wherein said absorbent core comprises an airlaid fibrous web comprising a substantially uniform admixture of hardwood fibers and softwood fibers.
14. (Amended) An absorbent article according to Claim 13 wherein said core further comprises superabsorbent particles.
15. (Amended) An absorbent article according to Claim 1 wherein said absorbent article further comprises an acquisition component that is pattern bonded to said topsheet so as to create an unbonded window, wherein said acquisition component is disposed between said topsheet and said absorbent core and said absorbent core comprises a multi-bonded air laid nonwoven material comprising a blend of cellulose fibers, bi-component fibers, superabsorbent particles, and latex binder.